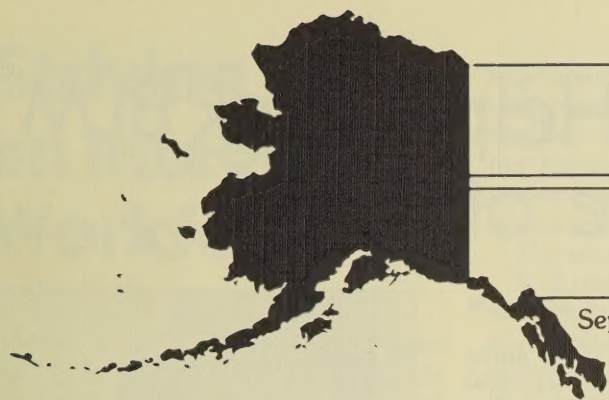


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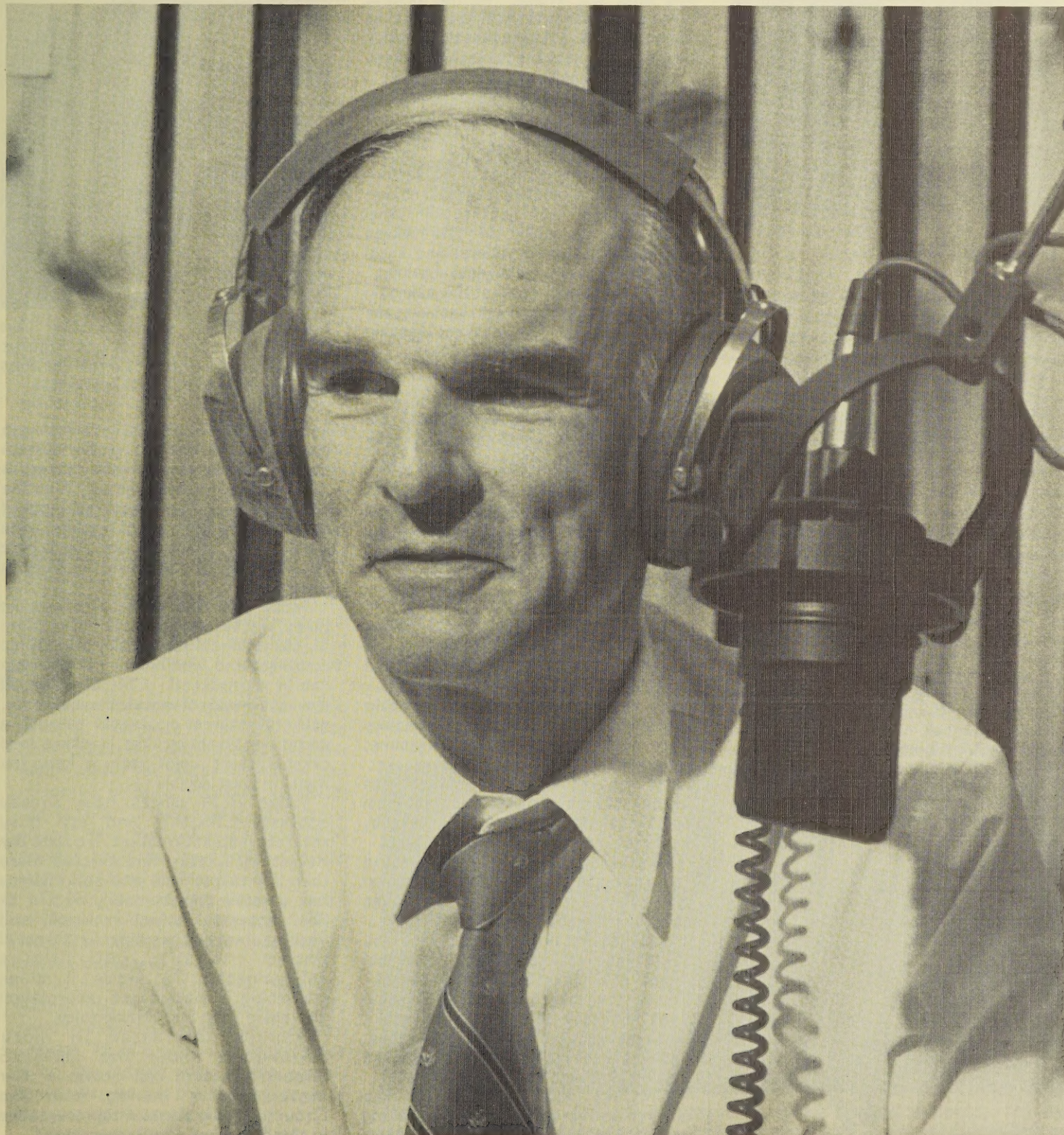
ALASKA PEOPLE

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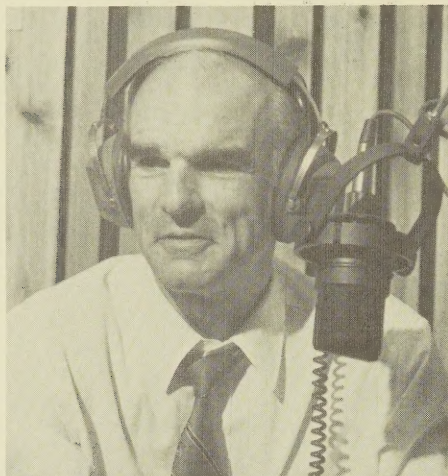


Photo by Ed Bovy

ON THE COVER:

On Monday, August 17, Secretary of Interior Donald Hodel gave Alaska residents the opportunity to voice their opinions on Department-related issues. During an hour-long show hosted by the Alaska Public Radio Network in Anchorage, residents asked questions on subjects ranging from ANWR to mining.

CMCIRS Helps Track BLM's Multitude of Maps

Have you ever needed a map you couldn't find?

Every office seems to store some maps but it's hard to keep track of who has what and where. All the moving during the reorganization has added to the confusion. Often when a map can't be located, a new one has to be created, costing time and money.

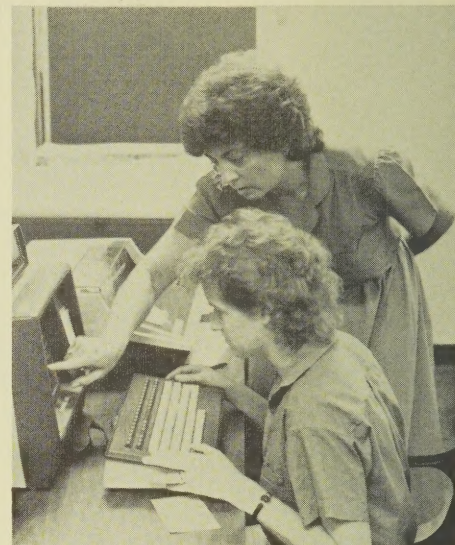
ASO's Branch of Photogrammetry has developed "The Computerized Map Cataloging and Information Retrieval System" or CMCIRS. "As the name states, the purpose of the system is not only to inventory maps but to give information on the types and ownership/location of the maps available for use by federal and state agencies as well as the general public," says Gust Panos, chief of the mapping section. "A major aim is to make it easy to locate maps that present specific resource or land use information.

CMCIRS was designed to help shorten and simplify the steps to finding maps for many special needs. It enables users to locate maps simply by keying in commands to the computer system.

The system uses several broad categories for classifying subjects such as fish and wildlife, land status and boundaries, and photo base maps. Each category is further divided into subtopics. For instance, subtopics under fish and game include: big game, furbearers, waterfowl, shorebirds, etc. Each subtopic is broken down even further to provide map information on specific animals such as black bear, caribou, moose, mountain goat. "Currently there are 23 categories and 122 subtopics to choose from. It is also quite easy to add additional categories to what's already there," says Panos.

"CMCIRS is not a digitizing system, so the physical map information is not stored in the computer, says Panos. "Instead, a brief description of each map, including the geographic area it covers, the type of information mapped, and where the map is located, is entered into the system."

CMCIRS was designed to help shorten and simplify the steps to finding maps for many special needs. It enables



Public contact representative Jan Crouch instructs Title & Land Status CMCIRS coordinator Leslie Coombs how to enter the map information.

users to locate maps simply by keying in commands to the computer system through Beehive terminals located in ASO and the district offices. With the cooperation and conscientious input of map originators and holders, the system will maintain an up-to-date inventory of all maps held by BLM in Alaska.

Along with the identity of specific maps, the system will have information on the creation date, scale, geographic coverage and whether or not the map can be reproduced. CMCIRS offers all the advantages of a central map library, with information accessible through a computer terminal. Yet, it allows map originators or major users to keep the maps in their offices.

Three BLM offices have already adopted CMCIRS and are busy entering map information. To date the Resources Library has entered more than 200 maps; Title and Land Status has entered approximately 500 of its 2341 easement selection maps; and Photogrammetry has entered 700 aerial photo indexes, 400 village enlargements, 70 series E maps containing miscellaneous information and more than 100 orthophotos.

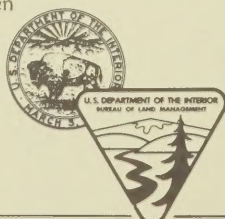
Anyone interested in more information about the CMCIRS inventory system can obtain a user manual and/or training from Jan Crouch, public contact representative in the Branch of Photogrammetry.

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Striving for an Integrated Workforce

by Joette Storm

More than 150 bureau employees met in Portland in August to identify problems and issues facing women and minorities in BLM. Their task during the four-day conference, titled "Striving for an Integrated Workforce," was to develop action plans for the Bureau Management Team (BMT) to use in defining, interpreting and developing Bureau policy in the next five years.

Clerical assistants, district managers, geologists, foresters and warehouse managers worked together to brainstorm ideas and draw up suggestions on how to meet the needs of an increasingly diverse workforce.

Managers in a position to hire women and minorities were also invited to attend. It was felt these managers need to be sensitive to the role they play in helping new employees assimilate into a traditionally white male organization.

Thirteen Alaskans participated in the conference including: Les Rosenkrance, Wayne Boden, Fran Eickbush, Tom Dean, John Rumps, Helen Hankins, Ann Johnson, Dee Dee Domingos, Mary Zeiher, Jean Rivers-Council, Robert Jones and Mel Williams.

The conference was kicked off with a brief history of the women's and civil rights movements by Dr. Sally Fairfax, a professor at the University of California.

She was followed by Denise Meridith, Chief of Resources in the New Mexico State Office, who debunked some of the myths about the status of women and minorities in BLM. Meridith said BLM has gotten, "a bad rap in affirmative action" and that while it's true BLM doesn't have the best record it has made progress in recent years.

There are eight women area managers, three assistant area managers and three women assistant district managers now.

David O'Neal, deputy director, termed the meeting "historic." "We need to emphasize our sameness," said O'Neal. "BLM's mission of multiple use is on the cutting edge so the agency must also be on the cutting edge of integrating the workforce."

Inspired by such words of encouragement the attendees

regrouped for the task of identifying issues and concerns and the means to deal with them. Their efforts resulted in the formation of task groups which further developed detailed action plans on the five key issues.

The issues included:

1. External recruitment of women and minorities through traditional and nontraditional programs and the assimilation of new employees into the BLM workforce.

2. Standardization of a bureauwide career development system to meet the individual's needs and better accomplish the Bureau's mission.

3. The need for strong commitment by management and supervisors to building, maintaining and enhancing an integrated workforce.

4. Improving internal placement of women and minorities in under-represented fields.

5. The lack of support systems for women and minorities.

The task groups identified 139 action items for the Bureau Management Team to consider. Director Burford, speaking at the close out said he agreed in principle with the thrust of the recommendations. "The work you put in deserves at least the same amount of time and thought from us in management, so I am directing the Human Resource Development Committee to meet in September to consider some of the new and complex proposals."

Burford added there was much the State Directors could do to implement some of the recommendations.

For Wayne Boden, DSD for Land and Renewable Resources, the broad mix of BLM employees at the conference was something new. "It was a rare opportunity for a cross section of

employees to share their perceptions with management," he said.

Dee Dee Domingos, Alaska Fire Service delegate to the conference says the words of Lynn Roberts of the U.S. Forest Service hit home for her. "She pointed out that since our society is diverse and the constituency that BLM serves is diverse, it only makes sense that our workforce reflect that diversity," she said.

For Ann Johnson, the speaker who made the biggest impact was Dr. Mary Jo Lavin, Deputy Supervisor Resource Protection Services State of Oregon. "Her comments on how to recognize and deal with a conservative constituency were very pertinent," says Johnson. "If management is not sensitive to that conservative element when proposing change it can expect a negative reaction."

Lavin's advice to BLM was when hiring women and minorities to anticipate problems they might encounter and discuss them openly in order to provide a network of support.

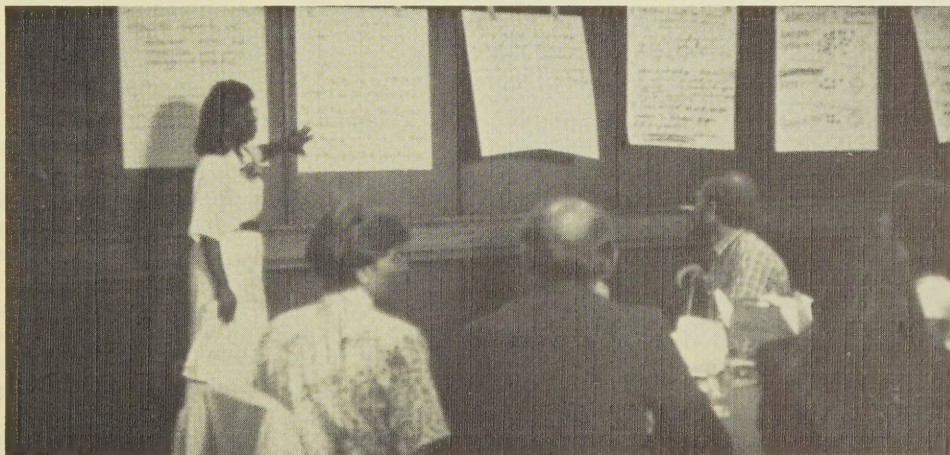
Another attendee, Mel Williams, remarked about the high level of energy at the conference.

Fran Eickbush also noted, "a positive feeling of change in the air."

"I was very pleased with the overall commitment of the Bureau managers present to actively pursue avenues which will bring more females and minorities into the workforce," he said.

Members of the Alaska delegation met August 19 to review the action items and identify those which pertain to and can be implemented by the Alaska management team. They also made initial plans for an Alaska conference to share the ideas with employees unable to attend the Portland session.

Photo by Joette Storm



Jean Rivers-Council, (left), briefs members of the steering committee on the recommendations of her task group during the recent conference on Striving for an Integrated Workforce.

Secretary of the Interior Hodel Visits Alaska

Secretary of Interior Donald Hodel arrived in Alaska August 8 to accompany three Congressional delegations on tours of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR). On Sunday, August 9, House of Representatives Merchant Marine & Fisheries Committee members and staff toured ANWR; Tuesday, August 11, House of Representatives Interior Committee members and staff visited the refuge; and Wednesday, August 12, the Senate Energy & Natural Resource Committee members and staff traveled to ANWR.

That week the Secretary met with Governor Steve Cowper, addressed a joint Rotary Club/Chamber of Commerce luncheon and met with miners in Fairbanks.

In addressing the miners Hodel said, "BLM is moving fast to begin the cumulative effects EIS and other work required by the court. In addition, we have been able to obtain an extension of the court's original October 1 'stop mining' date to November 15, so you can finish this season." He urged the miners, "you in the mining community who are concerned, responsible land users need to get after those in your own industry who are ruining your good name."

"The goal is 'one-stop permitting.' It's been achieved in other states. Mike Penfold got it started in Montana when he was state director there. He thinks we can make it work in Alaska too and I fully support his efforts." He urged the miners to ask the state legislature and the governor for help.

Hodel announced that the Bureau of Mines will be increasing its staff in Alaska, specifically to assist the state's placer miners in meeting clean water standards established by EPA. Hodel went on to say he supports the opening of ANWR's 1.9-million-acre coastal plain. "We are rapidly approaching the point where 50 percent of our oil for domestic use comes from OPEC. That tells the OPEC ministers they are back in control," he said.

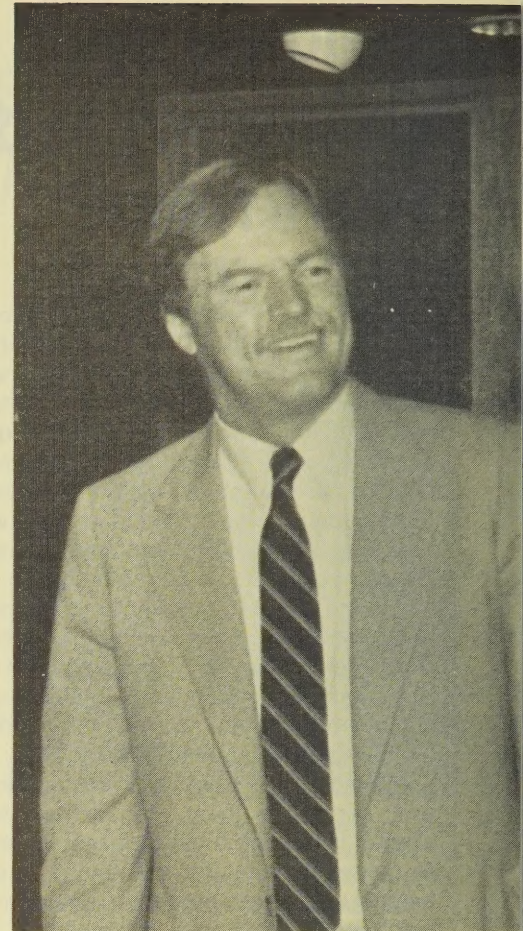
After meeting with the miners, he toured the Alaska Fire Service (AFS) dispatch area and talked with AFS employees.

On Monday, August 17, Alaska residents statewide had the opportunity to talk to Hodel on an hour-long show hosted by the Alaska Public Radio Network in Anchorage. Calls came in from all over the state, with as many as 50 callers waiting at one time. Many wanted to voice their opinions about ANWR but others had questions ranging from mining to the state's hiring laws.

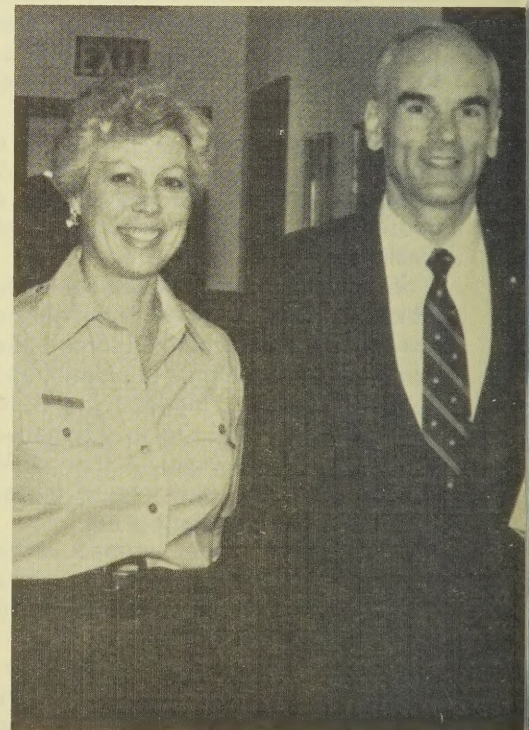
The week's activities once again stressed the importance of Alaska's natural resources to the entire nation.



DOI Public Affairs Director David Prosperi and Bill Horn, assistant secretary for fish, wildlife and parks, accompanied the Secretary to his Fairbanks meetings.



While in Fairbanks, the Secretary met with



The Secretary was welcomed to the Fairbanks (right) Sandy King, Nelda Garrett and Kanz



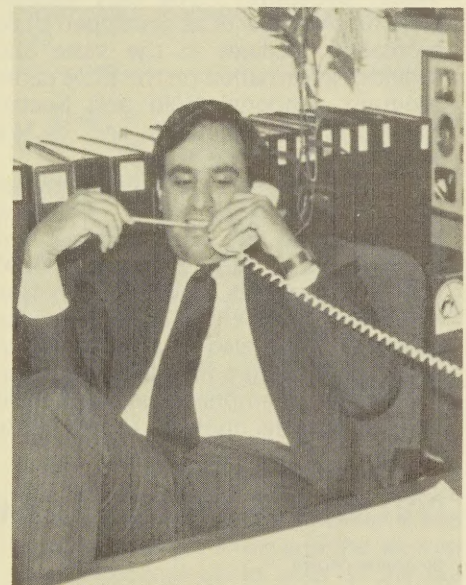
Governor Steve Cowper.



(above) Hodel addresses a joint Rotary Club/Chamber of Commerce luncheon in Fairbanks.

(right) David Prosperi, Director, Department of Interior Public Affairs, checks in with Washington

(below) Fairbanks reporters question Hodel about ANWR.



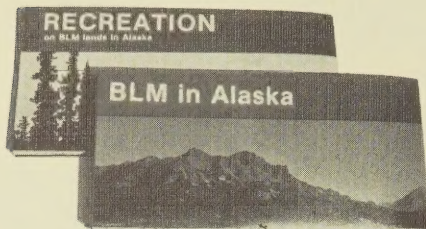
Photos by Dave Vickery



Office by BLM Public Room personnel (left to right) Masterson-Keill.



New Brochures



BLM-Alaska recently added two new brochures to its publications series, "BLM in Alaska" and "Recreation on BLM Lands in Alaska."

"Recreation on BLM Lands in Alaska" replaces the 1976 "Camps and Trails" brochure. The new version gives an overview of all developed BLM recreation facilities in the state and provides information on the BLM cabin program, National Wild and Scenic Rivers, scenic highways and BLM's special management areas.

"BLM in Alaska" updates an earlier edition of the same name. The new edition shows the BLM-administered Public Land in Alaska, the new BLM district boundaries, and the addresses and phone numbers of all BLM-Alaska offices. There also is a summary of major BLM programs and activities in the state with emphasis on ways BLM utilizes new technology to efficiently

manage Alaska's Public Lands.

Ed Bovy of ASO's Public Affairs Office served as editor and designer. "I began this project last November and it's hard to believe it's finished. This was a complex project due to the number of color separations and overlays involved, not to mention the amount of data that had to be checked and re-checked. By designing two products simultaneously using the same size and shape, we were able to achieve a cost savings in printing," he said.

These are the first full-color recreation brochures ever produced by BLM-Alaska. The designs were strongly influenced by two other brochures issued by BLM's sister agencies, the National Park Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service. "I wanted brochures that could show BLM's importance in Alaska and compete with brochures distributed by other agencies," said Bovy.

Rich Hagan, Sharon Wilson and the district recreation staffs reviewed the brochures for design and content. Bovy and Tom Dew provided some personal photos.

"I want to thank all the people who worked behind the scenes on this project. There were a lot of helpful suggestions and input provided. We probably went through five or six versions before it was finalized but now we have something that will serve for many years," said Bovy.

The brochures are available at BLM offices throughout the state as well as the Alaska Public Lands Information Centers.

Minerals Shop Loses its Kohl

by Joette Storm

Sixteen years worth of Alaska pipeline knowledge left the BLM last month when Arlan Kohl retired. The departing chief of the pipeline monitoring staff signed on with the project in 1971 as EIS coordinator.

"When I first started on the pipeline job, I didn't realize how big a project it was and how much interest there would be world-wide," said Kohl. "Because of that international interest, I got to rub shoulders with a lot of important people. For example, I met almost every Secretary of Interior except Kleppe. We had delegations from Norway, Sweden, Canada, the Soviet Union and Australia. People were coming from all over the world to see the construction of the pipeline and learn about construction techniques in the arctic."

Kohl began his BLM career in 1960 as a forester in Coos Bay, OR. He did stints in Roseburg, OR., Folsom, CA.

and Washington, D.C. in a variety of positions and attended the planning seminar at the University of Michigan.

All this equipped him for monitoring the construction and operation of the 800-mile pipeline which crosses diverse habitats throughout the state.

"The main concerns were related to caribou and large oil spills," said Kohl, who after countless trips up and down the pipeline corridor feels caribou migration patterns have been relatively unaffected by the line.

As a testimony to how well he handled the delicate job of overseeing activities on the pipeline, Kohl was recently feted at an informal luncheon by some of his peers at Alyeska Pipeline Service Company. He was presented with an official Alyeska jacket.

Kohl is heading for Kalispel, MT where he will build a home, "from scratch." Then he plans to do some small scale ranching.

ASO Activities Committee Comes Alive

by Danielle Allen

The State Office Activities Committee is ready to do business. Its first meeting in July is any indication of things to come, the committee has big plans for state office employees. The first event sponsored by the group was the Family Day at the end of July. Ice cream socials were recently held and pie sales are being scheduled to make money for the Committee's near empty coffers.

The Committee serves the social and charity interests of the State Office employees. Money earned will be used to support employee social functions like the BLM annual picnic and Christmas party. Money collected for charity will go to the causes ASO employees choose at the end of the year.

In the meantime activity committee members are asking whether employees prefer the Committee to sponsor a Thanksgiving lunch for the entire ASO or should each division/branch take care of their own at Thanksgiving. The Committee also wants to know what the employees want for an ASO Christmas party. Last year the party was held at the Sheraton Hotel with a talent show. Do employees want a similar party this year?

All state office divisions are represented in the Committee. If there are any questions about the Committee contact the member representing your area.

OFFICERS:

Mike Haskins, president
Aaron Richins, vice president
Lynne Stamey, secretary
Carla Cross, charity treasurer
Dorine McCall, social treasurer

MEMBERSHIP:

Elaine Barankiewicz (910, 912, 915)
Larelle Smith (918)
Aaron Richins (920)
Dave Bieganski (920)
Mike Haskins (930)
Evy Grafton (960)
Robin Rodriguez (960)
Kay Schaeffer (970, 971, 972)
Dorine McCall (973, 974, 979)
Jackie Bowens (973, 974, 979)
Sue Faught (980)

Mushers Get 15 Miles of Relief

by Danielle Allen

Besides blinding snowstorms, and exhaustion constantly tugging at them, getting lost on the Iditarod Trail is the last thing a musher wants to do while running the annual Iditarod Sled Dog Race. Not enough can be said for having a well-marked trail when one travels the back country of Alaska in the winter; and who knows this better than dog sled mushers.

Although parts of the 1,049-mile Iditarod Trail are more difficult to follow than others, in past years mushers have expressed increased frustration over finding their way through the Farewell Burn, located about 30 miles southeast of McGrath.

The trail is only partially visible on the ground and the openness of the terrain makes it easy for mushers to lose their way. In mid-July, volunteers and

members of the Iditarod Trail Committee got together to remedy the problem.

Joe Redington, Joe Reynolds, Lavon Barve and Jean Farnham were joined by Anchorage District outdoor recreation planner Dean Littlepage in marking 15 miles of the trail in the Peluk Roadhouse-Sullivan Creek area.

BLM's contribution to the four-day effort was 300 pounds of supplies and the transport of that gear by helicopter to work sites. Tripods with reflectors were placed along the trail through the burn and a new bridge was built at Sullivan Creek. A total of 24 miles has been marked by the Iditarod Trail Committee and volunteers this year.

Joe Redington, musher and "father of the Iditarod" suggests BLM and the Iditarod Trail Committee work together



Joe Reynolds and Jean Farnham standing next to a new Iditarod trail marker.

in 1988 to reconstruct the old trail in Dalzell Gorge between Rainy Pass and Rohn.

BLM is one of many land managers of the Iditarod National Historic Trail, and the Anchorage District office coordinates management of the entire trail.

Meet SCA Volunteer Benner Jones IV

by Ed Bovy

North Carolina's a long way to come from for a volunteer job with Alaska BLM. But Benner Jones IV says, "I've wanted to come to Alaska ever since I got out of high school. I sold my motorcycle and a truck and flew up to see what Alaska is all about."

Jones, who is one of three Student Conservation Association (SCA) volunteers working in Glennallen adds, the opportunity to meet new people, rather than the scenery, is what drew him north. "I like talking to people and learning from them first hand rather than just reading from books. There's no shortage of interesting people around here. I was most attracted by the Alaskan lifestyle and thought that it would be similar to my way of life."

Jones, and SCA Jonathan Kamler, work in the recreation program and provide assistance in campground, trail, and easement work. They also go on river patrol to clean campsites and repair facilities.

The third SCA, Bob Schmidt, works in the wildlife program and has been conducting fish surveys of lakes in the Gulkana River drainage and tagging eagle and osprey with BLM wildlife biologists. Jones put some of his previous job skills to use in climbing trees to see if any young were in the nests.



Benner Jones IV

Five years ago Glennallen was one of the first BLM offices in Alaska to have SCAs as part of a pilot program. Recreation Planner Larry Kajdan explained how he acquainted one of the SCA program monitors with a sample of Alaska living. "The Association was originally going to pay its volunteers \$58 a week for food allowance. When one of their people came through here last summer, I took him shopping at a local grocery store. I just started throwing things in the cart. As we went down the aisles I could hear him saying, 'holy cow' over and over. The allowance was raised to \$88."

"There's no doubt that the SCAs make a real contribution to our on-the-ground management program. We're already planning to request at least two positions next summer," says Kajdan.

Jones says that the program is worthwhile. "I've met a lot of people who started in it and now are well along in a good career."

In mid-August Jones and Kamler exchanged jobs with two SCAs in the Steese-White Mountains District. "I helped oil a BLM patrol cabin in the White Mountains and added a woodshed. We also flagged several miles of trail. But the best part of all was being in a larger town and the all-you-can-eat-for-four-bucks over at the fire mess hall," says Jones.

When asked how Alaskans compare to North Carolinians? "I've found that people are a lot more dependent on economics up here rather than appreciating the land. It's actually a lot like where I came from. Everyone judges everyone else on how much money they make." But Jones says Alaska is a beautiful state and even though he has to leave at the end of the summer, he might come back some day. "But if I do, it will be on vacation so I can see more of the country and meet more people," he says.

**Editor's note:* The Student Conservation Association is the largest sponsor of volunteer positions in land managing agencies in the U.S. Volunteers receive travel and weekly expense allowances. Applications for summer positions must be received by March 1. For more information on the program write to: Student Conservation Association, Box 550, Charleston, N.H.

Applause

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Larry Evans, Supervisory Land Surveyor,
ASO Division of Cadastral Survey

SUSTAINED SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE AWARD

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Alvena Klinefelter, Secretary, ASO
Division of Lands & Renewable
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August 1987

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North Star Crew is a Success

by Sue Swartz

The North Star crew is a success. The newly formed volunteer fire fighting crew spent most of the summer working on fires and earning the trust and commendations of their supervisors.

Dave Stewart, past chief of the fire suppression specialists, first proposed the idea of a partially volunteer fire fighting crew. His idea was to form a crew of entry-level fire fighters who would work all summer. The crew would work on fires when needed and on other projects when there were no fires. BLM would pay room and board when the crew was on project work but the crew would work for free in return for their training. The members were paid as emergency fire fighters when they were fighting fires.

Nearly 100 people applied for the 16 positions on the crew. The majority of the crew members chosen, lived in Fairbanks, but others came from Eagle River, Tok, St. Michael and Anchorage.

Each of the volunteers signed an agreement with the Bureau of Land Management to work from June 1 to August 15. The first week was spent in orientation to the Alaska Fire Service, training in fire fighting techniques and physical conditioning.

Shortly after completing their training, the crew was assigned to a fire near St. Mary's. After that fire, the crew worked a week for the state of Alaska

clearing roadside brush and another week maintaining the Circle Hot Springs Zone headquarters in Central. The rest of the summer was spent fighting fires.

"Crew members rated from satisfactory to excellent in their evaluations," says hotshot manager Dave Dash. One goal of the project is to train the crew members so they can qualify for seasonal positions as hotshots with the Alaska Fire Service next year. Dash taught the crew members how to fill out a SF-171 application form to best show their new qualifications.

Being on the volunteer crew not only provides income from fire fighting this year, but experience and training which will lead to better employment opportunities for each crew member next year and beyond. The program gave the Alaska Fire Service an additional crew available on short notice during the summer fire season, and the crew added to the pool of trained fire fighters to draw from next year. Other agencies, such as the State of Alaska, have access to the crew's volunteer labor, when it is not on fires, for projects that otherwise could not be funded.

BLM intends to continue the program next year since it was such a success this year. Dash expects even more applications once word gets out that the crew was able to work on fires most of the summer.

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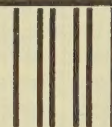


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